Claims

1.   A method of routing communications data to a user located in one of a plurality of data networks by a router, the router having a data store provided with data relating to characteristics of the networks and the associations between the networks, the method comprising:

receiving user location information relating to the identity of the data network to which the user is currently connected;

receiving communications data to be sent to the user;

retrieving from the store the associated characteristics of the data network to which the user is currently connected, and the associations between that network and other networks;

adapting the communications data so as to be compatible with the retrieved characteristics, and

sending the adapted communications data to the user.

2.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the router is a home agent attached to a home network.

3.   A method according to either claim 1 or 2   wherein the communications data comprises text data

4.   A method according to any preceding claim wherein the adapted communications data comprises voice data.

5.   A method according to any preceding claim wherein the adaptation of the communications data comprises summarising the communications data.

6.   A method according to any preceding claim wherein the adapted communications data is received by an intermediary router and re-routed to the user

5   7.   A method according to claim 6 wherein the user and the intermediary router are attached to the same one of the plurality of data networks.

8.   A computer program to be loaded on a computer to route communications data to a user located in one of a plurality of data
10   networks each with associated characteristics, such that the computer :

stores data relating to characteristics of the networks and the associations between the networks;

receives user location information, wherein the user location information includes the identity of one of the plurality of data networks;

15   receives communications data to be sent to the user;

adapts the communications data so as to be compatible with the associated characteristics of the data network to which the user is currently connected, and the associations between that network and other networks; and sends the adapted communications data to the user.

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9.   A computer program according to claim 8 wherein the computer program has been down-loaded from a server and stored in storage means prior to loading on a computer.

25   10.   A computer program stored on a medium, for controlling a computer to route communications data to a user located in one of a plurality of data networks by:

receiving user location information which includes the identity of one of the plurality of data networks;

30   receiving communications data to be sent to the user;

retrieving, from a store of data relating to characteristics of the networks and the associations between the networks, the data relating to the characteristics of the said one of the plurality of data networks;

adapting the communications data so as to be compatible with the
5 associated characteristics of said one of the plurality of data networks and
sending the adapted communications data to the user.

11.   Processing means to carry out data processing on communication data, the processing means comprising:

10   first receiving means to receive network information relating to each of a plurality of data networks, wherein the network information includes data network type;

storage means to store network information;

second receiving means to receive user location information from a
15 router, wherein the user location information includes the identity of a selected one of the plurality of data networks;

third receiving means to receive from the router communications data to be sent to the user;

information retrieval means to retrieve network information relating to
20 the selected data network;

adapting means to adapt the communications data so as to be compatible with the data network type of the one of the plurality of data networks and

output means to output the adapted communications data to the
25 router.